

In the Drawings

Please delete sheet 1 and insert sheet 1 (attached) marked "Replacement Sheet".

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 remain pending in the application with the present amendments. In the Office Action, the drawings were objected to under 37 CFR 1.121(d). FIG. 1B is corrected herein to show the section line C-C through which the partial sectional view of FIG. 1C is taken. Applicants submit that no new manner is introduced by way of the present amendment to the drawings.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected all claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,859,762 to Clark et al. ("Clark"), in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,282,084 to Goerdt et al. ("Goerdt"), or as obvious over *Clark*, in view of *Goerdt* and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,093,326 to Ford ("Ford").

As presently pending in the application, claim 1 recites an assembly which includes a computing device and an adapter engageably mounted to the computing device. The computing device includes a cooperating opening that is engageable by a latch. The adapter includes a support plate having a top surface. A latch is provided from a top surface of the support plate, the latch engaging the cooperating opening in the computing device to secure the computing device to the top surface of the support plate. Claim 1 clearly defines the term "top surface." The top surface is opposite from the bottom surface. The identity of the "top surface" is specified further in that the adapter includes "a connector provided from the bottom surface" which is adapted to removably mount the support plate to a support stand.

With respect to claims 1, 14 and 20, Applicants submit that the Examiner's reliance on *Clark* and *Goerdt* is misplaced. While *Clark* shows and describes a stand for supporting a computer, *Clark* merely shows use of "clip elements" 38 for helping to

retain the computer. *Clark* neither teaches nor suggests an assembly including a computing device, an adapter having a support plate with a top surface and a bottom surface opposite thereto, in which the support plate has a *latch provided from the top surface* which *engages a cooperating opening in the computing device* to secure the computing device to the top surface.

Goerdt does not provide the teachings which *Clark* lacks with respect to the invention recited in the presently pending claims. *Goerdt* neither teaches nor suggests a latch. As argued in the amendment filed in response to the Office Action dated July 11, 2005, *Goerdt* merely shows and describes use of a *bracket 24* (FIG. 2) for attaching the computing device to a pedestal. Applicants provided dictionary definitions of "bracket" and "latch" in support of the arguments presented. The term "bracket" as used in *Goerdt* cannot be used interchangeably with the term "latch" as used in applicants' disclosure and the claims. In one main difference, the brackets taught by *Goerdt* have no moving parts. By contrast, the two definitions of "latch" given by Merriam-Webster indicate use of moving parts: a. "a fastener (as for a door) consisting essentially of a *pivoted bar* that *falls* into a notch"; or b. "a fastener (as for a door) in which a spring *slides a bolt* into a hole."

In addition, with respect to claim 7, 15 and 19, the Examiner's reliance on *Goerdt* is misplaced. The Examiner agrees that *Goerdt* does not teach a computing device having openings in the bottom surface of the computing device, but argues that the location of the openings is a matter of engineering preference. However, this plainly contradicts the teachings of *Goerdt*. *Goerdt* teaches a bracket 24 attached to a sidewall 40 of a pedestal which has a tab 44 which engages a *shoulder 48* in the sidewall 50 of

the computing device. In the computing device shown in *Goerdt*, and indeed in the typical example, the sidewall 50 of the computing device rises at a 90 degree angle from the bottom surface. Clearly, the bracket with angled tab designed for engaging a sidewall taught by *Goerdt* would not be capable of engaging a cooperating opening in a bottom surface of the computing device.

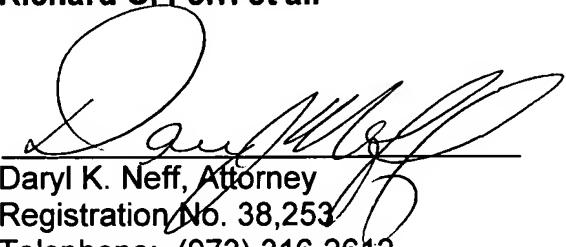
In addition, with respect to claims 3-6 and 16-18, the Examiner states that while *Ford* does not teach the recited feature, it would be merely a matter of engineering preference to provide a threaded opening in the bottom surface of a plate for engagement with a threaded stud. However, the difference is more than mere engineering preference. The threaded opening in the stand enhances convenience in connecting the support plate having a threaded stud to the stand, because it avoids having to keep track of an extra part such as a wingnut in *Ford*. With mounting system shown in *Ford*, one has to hold the support plate with the threaded stud in one hand and the stand in the other hand and simultaneously screw the wingnut to the threaded stud. Given the weight of the computing device and that of the support stand, this could be a difficult maneuver to perform. Through use of a threaded opening in the support stand, one can more easily mount the support plate to the stand.

For the foregoing reasons, applicants submit that the presently pending claims are fully distinguished from the cited references and that the application is now in condition for immediate allowance.

If for any reason the Examiner has any question regarding the content of this amendment or the allowability of the presently pending claims, he is respectfully requested to contact the applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below. It is believed that no fee is required upon filing this Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard C. Ferri et al.

By


Daryl K. Neff, Attorney
Registration No. 38,253
Telephone: (973) 316-2612